

While I agree with the importance of protecting copyrighted materials, I strongly believe that it would be a great disservice to the consumer to allow the new DVI HDCP interface to convert HD digital content to SD resolutions on HDTV-ready televisions sold with analogue-only interfaces. People who purchased these first and second generation sets were led to believe that new technologies and compatibility issues would reside in the STBs and not in the display units. Early adopters of this new technology should not be penalized for helping to play a role in the transition into the new HDTV era of broadcasting. Any ruling on enabling this copyright feature should allow for a 10 year phase-in period to accommodate the existing market and provide for a reasonable life expectancy of previously purchased HDTVs. Showing support for the consumer and not caving in to industry demands would go a long way to gain further confidence in accepting this new technology.